

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Washington, DC 20405

January 30, 1991

FIRMR BULLETIN C-17

TO: Heads of Federal agencies

SUBJECT: Information Resources Service Center (IRSC)

1. Purpose. This bulletin provides guidance on the use of the electronic bulletin board, a service of GSA's Information Resources Service Center (IRSC).

2. Expiration date. This bulletin contains information of a continuing nature and will remain in effect until canceled.

3. Contents.

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4. Information and assistance. The following offices in GSA's Information Resources Management Service (IRMS) may be contacted for additional information:

a. Technical assistance. If technical difficulties are encountered in attempting to access the system, call the Planning and Support Division, Technical Support Branch (KEES), on Commercial or FTS (202) 501-1683 or 501-1401.

b. Program information. Further information on the following programs can be obtained by calling the telephone numbers shown below:

TC 90-1

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(1) GSA nonmandatory schedule contracts - Groups 58 and 70 - Schedules Division (KES) - Commercial or FTS (202) 501-1840.

(2) Contract Services Program - Technical Services Staff (KRT) - Commercial or FTS (703) 756-4227.

(3) Inventory of Microcomputers - Planning and Development Staff (KAP) - Commercial or FTS (202) 501-4083.

(4) Lists of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement or Non-Procurement Programs - Office of Federal Acquisition Policy (VR) - Commercial or FTS (202) 501-3566.

5. Acronyms.

FIP Federal Information Processing

6. Program description. The IRSC is an electronic bulletin board containing information on contract awards under various GSA - IRMS contracting programs. Users have the option of displaying the data on a CRT screen or downloading the information to their own system for printing. It also includes a "feedback and hotline" for user comments and suggestions. The IRSC provides information via a menu-driven interactive computer program.

a. Availability. The bulletin board can be accessed without cost, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through most terminals and microcomputers with communication capability.

b. Passwords. No passwords or ID's are required.

c. Technical specifications. The technical specifications are:

- (1) Asynchronous communications
- (2) Full duplex
- (3) No parity
- (4) 8 data bits
- (5) 1 stop bit
- (6) Xon/Xoff not supported
- (7) Echoing of characters provided by host system

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d. Telephone numbers. Telephone numbers to access the electronic bulletin board are as follows:

(1) 300 baud - (202) 501-3308

FTS 241-3308

DSN 294-0524

(2) 1200 baud - (202) 501-2661

FTS 241-2661

DSN 294-0521

(3) 2400 baud - (202) 501-2014

FTS 241-2014

e. Special note. When the user receives the "connect" or "on line" message at the terminal, the return (enter) key must be depressed to gain access to the bulletin board.

f. Menu. The menu provides information on the topics shown below. A menu of subtopics will be displayed under each of the main topic items. Additional menus covering other topics may be added to the system in the future.

(1) Contracts and schedules;

(2) Potential Government sources of ADP sharing and computer support; and

(3) Federal contracts and inventory of microcomputers.

7. Cancellation. FIRMR Bulletin 10, Revision 1 is canceled.

Thomas J. Buckholtz
Commissioner
Information Resources
Management Service

